

ENGLAND'S WELCOME TO THE RETURNING
HEROES

they avowed themselves in gentleman. I have no doubt the sensible people of Paramatta fully appreciated them, and their impertinent interference, and their unbecoming conduct, and their unbecoming and trifling representative, Mr. Parker, neither by the virulent abuse of Mr. Martin—the pedantic declamation of Mr. Piddington—the mixture of folly and cleverness, twaddle and wit of Mr. Tom Ruster—nor by the remarkably weak imitation of the same by Mr. Frank. I hope that neither they nor the electors of the Hamam were far away by the personalities and disputes of the assembly, and that they were not so much much delay. What are these squabbles to me? Let them look to the good of the country only. We want

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(From the Times, 2nd July.)

This nation, after many sorrows and many anxieties, is now glad to rejoice with those that rejoice. From one end of the country to the other families, friends, and acquaintances are welcoming the heroes in their various degrees who are once more setting foot on the English shore. The last brilliant exploit of the war has been nearly the first to receive its reward. Sir Fenwick Williams and his companions of Kurs now their laurels chiefly in the two months which succeeded the capture of the Malinkoff, and they are among us.

while most of the Cumanese celebrities are still listlessly willing away the time before Sebastopol, or strolling about the city in the most dissipated manner, and with provoking stoppages at Mifia, Gibraltar, or the Tagus. Many may not arrive until the end of summer, have scattered the London world and precluded an intimate acquaintance. But let none despair. The English are not people to be easily discouraged. In a few days, or a few months more have elapsed since they were achieved, nor do they require a triumphal entry to fix in their minds the return of the brave men who have been so long absent. They will be glad to see those who come first, simply because they are the first, the representatives of the whole army—of those who are 'on the sea,' of those who yet remain on those who are on the march, and of the still larger number who are at home. The first to return from the front will be greeted; young and old Generals and subalterns but a year or two from school, with all the warmth

will be twofold; we shall honour the men we see before us, but we shall also honour the battalions, the army, the nation, the alliance, and the cause which they represent. Not that we think less of them personally, but that we think more of the acts with

which they are associated, the objects which they have helped to achieve, and the spirit which sent them to their work. Their friends will receive them with pride in their individual labours, but with more pride in the fact that they have been part of the army which has done such great things in past times as well as present, as companions of those who return to the countries of our allies, as comrades of those who are no more, as continuers of the traditions in which their countrymen have been educated, as the representatives of all that has been done in the four quarters of the world since England was a nation.

And now, my friends, I have said all that I can say soon make their entry into London. Let no man cavil because their reception will be triumphal, or urge, what we all know, that the men who return are not

those who departed on that cold Valentine's day in 1891. It is true that the regiments which saw the fall of the city were not the Guards, but the men of the brave men who then, as they marched through the deserted streets of London, roused the sleepers in every saloon with the sound of martial music. In the eyes of the public, the men of the Guards were inferior to the veterans who then went forth, but the country will receive those who return as the bravest of the brave. The men of the Guards will willingly ascribe to them the merit not only of their own deeds, but of all that was done and suffered by those whose places they took. The achievements of the Guards in the Crimea, the Boer War, and the Alma to the last days of the war, will be thrown into a mass, and the honour will be given the Guardsmen who return. Who shall object to this generous fiction? The men of the Guards will be glad to see their regiments had done no former time, and was it not their dearest wish that their own conduct might throw into the shade the deeds of the men of the Guards? In 1861 considered themselves the Guards of Waterloo; why should not those of the present hour have the credit of the Alma and Inkermann? The feverish spirit of the Boer War, the men of the Guards have accumulated to wounds, disease, or labur, during two eventful years—are honoured when their surviving

We have, indeed, sufficient cause to look on these returning ruins with chastened exaltation. When the remnant which is left first gazed these shores the return was talked about almost as much as now. We should have been told that it was a triumph. However, it was a demonstration, a diplomatic coup—nothing more. The nation, and the world in general, have no cause to be proud of their foresight. The nation, and the world in general, have no pretensions of political wisdom, or it may be said, of any wisdom. Nor can we forget how much the failure of a nation, the imperfection of which was never mind to us, has had to do with the small number of veterans which we shall discern among the Guards of 1896. Let us look on them, and with pride in what has been achieved, but not with pride in what has been achieved. — But there is a necessity for something more

than reproaches against rulers, military and civil. The nation at large must take a lesson from the sight, for, as it is itself now the mainspring of its own good, it is equally responsible for every fault it is, in truth, ultimately attributable to itself.

If it be a weakness to turn from the public advantage to the happiness of individuals, it is, at any rate, one in which human feeling may naturally indulge. But there are hundreds of families to whom the entry of the Guards will bring little but melancholy memories. They will see or hear of the return of a corps that has the same in name as the corps of the Guards, but in little else. All that joined them in a personal interest to it is now gone. A paragraph in a despatch or a newspaper, a tablet in some country church, alone remains to them of the son or brother who was their

pride, or perhaps their support. Now, we do not say that the Garis live *more* than many other regiments, their *more* than others, would we urge national concordance with the privations of the world and the 'highborn more than with those of ordinary English households. But we may without obvious comparisons remind our readers of the achievements and sufferings of the brigade. Do not compare them invidiously with the Light or any other of our battalions, but with themselves. Eight officers of the Coldstreams were killed, and the rest of the regiment, Kernann; the three battalions together lost 10 officers. The horrible story of Russian cruelty connected with the fate of some of these is still fresh in everyone's memory. We may hope, for the credit of a people who are now no longer our enemies, that this was an

unimpeded act of barbarity: the Russian officer, who was urging on the dastardly work, died a few months after the hospital, and it was no uncommonly true that he was well tended and provided for until the end. After the terrible day of Inkerman, their enemies assaulted the unhappy brigade. They had their share of fatigue and privation, and more than their share of sickness. At one time we believe only 300 were fit for duty. The splendid troops that had excited the admiration of our allies, both French and Ottomans, were before February almost destroyed. Twenty years of leisurely recruiting had been necessary to raise that picked corps, by the side of which all foreign troops appeared but boys, and that hour of confusion and distress was not a time to be select. The fusion of the two armies was a disaster.

penal will restore them to their ancient status. The new years of military eye will once more rejoice at their tall forms and complete equipment: the Londoner and his country visitors will once more stop to admire them on guard or parade. But where will be those who have fallen? The army will fill its ranks, the nation will be stronger and reputation, but there will be wounds in many a heart that cannot heal.

As the Household Troops of the Queen, the guardian of the capital, as having fought as bravely and suffered as much as any of their fellows, we receive the Guards with sympathy and admiration. As those who return are the representatives of their companions none more, so we conceive the Guards to be the representatives of the whole army. Every man who has served his country in the army.

in the field or the hospital, may fairly take his share in the tribute which the public is about to offer. It is not in the spirit of favouritism or even of thoughtlessness that the welcome will be given. Clubs, or corporations, or private individuals have their several modes of honouring the illustrious. The people in general have but one way to testify by their words and kind greetings the feelings which animate them; and by such means will they show the Guards, and through the Guards the whole army, how closely they have watched the achievements of two momentous years.

THE MAINE BOUNDARY AND OREGON DISPUTES.

(From the *Times*, 18th Feb. 1859.)

Mn. Maury, in his despatch to Mr. Dalm of May 24, respecting the Central American question, after stating that there are certain points affecting the construction of the Bulwer-Clayton treaty which the President "would not decline to refer to arbitration," says: "He is aware of many practical obstacles to the adjustment of any international difference of this nature by arbitration. The difficulties both Great Britain and the United States have experienced in their attempts to settle, by such means, the controversy on the subject of the boundary between the United States and the British provinces in North America." This is perfectly correct so far as the United States is concerned, but not as regards this country. Our only difficulty

the War, Federal Ministry of which Lord Palmerston was a member, made a new attempt to bring the question of the boundary between the United States and England to a settlement. The dispute was allowed to rankle for a while longer, nor did there seem any disposition on the part of America to come to reasonable terms. Mr. Webster contended that the American claim to the disputed territory was based on the discovery of the country by the treaty of 1783, was the only correct one. In a debate in the Senate, in February 1839, he declared that "Great Britain ought instantly to yield, and that she would be wise to do so." In a resolution passed by the House of Representatives on the 4th July next, according to the treaty of 1783, we would then take possession of the line, and let her drive us off if she can. As to what he understood by settling the question, no room was left for any other interpretation than that of the acquisition of the territory. "I never entertained a doubt that the disputed territory belonged to the United States." In his opinion this was "perfectly clear—so clear, indeed, that the con-

At this moment the wisest and best men in the Union, of one party in politics, should present the most judicious and yet respectful appeal for the good sense of the people against the political selfishness which was instantly seizing the opportunity to manufacture 'political capital' out of it. They would perceive very clearly that the Union was in danger of being cowardice and want of patriotism against its authors, and offer the grossest adulation to the vanity of the nation."

Notwithstanding this bravado, the Maine boundary was settled without much difficulty after all. In 1842, Lord Ashburton, who had been sent by our Government for this purpose, succeeded in persuading the British Government to accept of the American arrangement of the long-pending dispute. Mr. Webster was the commissioner with whom he had to deal; and he was so successful that the British Government had no right to any of the land in dispute, his lordship obtained for Great Britain a more advantageous frontier-line, and 709,640 acres of territory more than she had claimed. The British Government was paid \$12,000,000 for the land which she had lost in 1842. After all their loud talk and bluster on the subject, both Whigs and Democrats were obliged to acknowledge that they had been wrong in their divisional line, and that the American line was right.

No sooner was the Maine boundary question settled

"Resolved,—That our title to the whole of the territory of Oregon is clear and unquestionable; that no portion of the same ought to be ceded to England or France; that the acquisition of the whole of Oregon and the re-annexation of Texas, at the earliest opportunity, are great American measures, which the Convention recommend to the cordial support of the people of the United States."

her father, Alexander and her allies, and he felt equally so. He was not a man to be trifled with, and he was not a man who would let this Oregon question, the only way we could avoid it, be won by preparing to give them the best fight we had on hand. The contest would be a bloodless one; we should be able to show the rebels that the Great Britain knows too well if she had war about Oregon, farwello to her Canada."

This was mild, however, compared with the speech which Mr. George F. Ruxton, of New York, after stating how much he abhorred and detested the British Government, he indulged in the following outbreak of patriotic feeling:—

"I would like that the British, the Scotch-Irish, the Scotch, the Welsh, and the English, would mix up in rebellion, sponge out the national debt, confiscate the land, and sell it in small parcels among the poor of the country, and then, to reward the rebels, promise land of equal rights except through an acre of blood. Let Great Britain declare war, and I fervently hope that the British people, at least the Irish, would rise up and fight for the support of their independence. I again repeat, that I abhor their independence; I abhor that purse-proud and pampered aristocracy, with its blooded pension list, which for centuries has been the curse of the nation, the toil, the sweat, and the blood of that people."

The debates in Congress regarding the Oregon question occupied the greater part of the session of 1846, and throughout the whole of them the only cry that was received with the loudest enthusiasm was the Oregon or none."

But the loudlest party was not the British

1. The first step is to identify the problem or question that needs to be answered. This involves understanding the context and the specific requirements of the task.

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